



# NEWS RELEASE

# UNITED STATES AIR FORCE

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## **SERGEANT RECEIVES CASH FOR THOUGHT**

KIRTLAND AIR FORCE BASE, N.M. – Tech Sgt. Steven Tuss found a way to save the laboratory \$15,000 simply by making a suggestion.

In return for his suggestion, Tuss will receive 15 percent of the savings – or \$2,250.

Tuss, a member of the Air Force Research Laboratory's Directed Energy Directorate, works in the laser division here. The branch he works in requires a high-speed camera capability to document some of the tests conducted in the facilities. Instead of spending the \$5000 per week to rent the high-speed camera equipment, Tuss suggested that the laboratory buy a digital video camera outright, which will lead to a \$15,000 savings within the first year and eliminate high cost film processing.

The program for receiving bonuses for cost-saving ideas is called Innovative Development through Employee Awareness, or IDEA, is aimed at rewarding employees for tangible savings ideas. The program offers incentive to all employees to look at spending activities, cost-saving processes, and ways to increase efficiency or productivity within the laboratory.